

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to provide a cross-reference to the previously filed International Application.

Claims 87-173 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-86 have been cancelled and claims 87-173 have been added.

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the application by this Amendment.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

The specification has been amended to provide a cross-reference to the previously filed International Application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 4, please delete the third paragraph beginning on line 18 and replace with the following:

--To achieve the above objects, according to the present invention, a wastewater treatment agent [is produced by mixing a first flocculant that is a high-molecular-weight substance and a second flocculant that is a low-molecular-weight substance, and acts by flocculating the surfactant components present in wastewater] flocculates a surfactant component present in wastewater with a primary flocculant composed of a high-molecular-weight inorganic flocculant or a mixture of a high-molecular-weight inorganic flocculant and a low-molecular-weight inorganic flocculant and makes the resulting flocks grow larger with a secondary flocculant composed of a high-molecular-weight organic flocculant.--

Page 5, please delete the 1<sup>st</sup> full paragraph beginning on line 6 and replace with the following new paragraph:

According to the present invention, a polluted water purifier for collecting a pollutant present in polluted water by flocculating the pollutant with a flocculant, or a washing machine incorporating

such a purifier, is provided with: a polluted water tank for storing the polluted water, a first mixer for mixing the polluted water with [the] a primary flocculant to produce primary flocks; a second mixer for mixing the polluted water containing the primary flocks with [the] a secondary flocculant and air to produce secondary flocks; an agitator for agitating the polluted water containing the flocculant and the air so as to make [the primary flocks hold bubbles and thereby produce secondary flocks] the secondary flocks grow larger; and a separator for separating the secondary flocks thus grown. [Here, the polluted water tank, the first mixer, the second mixer, the agitator, separator are coupled in this order to form a circulation path that leads back to the polluted water tank.]

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-86 have been canceled.

Claims 87-173 have been added.